

Juniata Shops, Paint Stores
East of Fourth Avenue, South of First Street
Altoona
Blair County
Pennsylvania

HAER No. PA-232-H

HAER
PA,
7-ALTO,
4-H-

PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

HISTORIC AMERICAN ENGINEERING RECORD

JUNIATA SHOPS, PAINT STORES

HAER No. PA-232-H

Location: East of Fourth Avenue, South of First Street, Altoona, Blair County, Pennsylvania
USGS Quad: Altoona, Pennsylvania (1:24000)
UTM: 17 E.721400 N.4489810

Date of Construction: 1889

Builder: Pennsylvania Railroad

Present Owner: Conrail

Present Use: Laboratory Offices

Significance: Appearing little changed from its original appearance, the Paint Stores provided essential storage facilities for the adjacent paint shop (now demolished).

Project Information: This project was undertaken by HAER in conjunction with America's Industrial Heritage Project as part of an architectural survey covering a nine-county region in Southwestern Pennsylvania, Randall Cooley, Director. See HAER No. PA-108, Pennsylvania Railroad, Altoona Works, Altoona, Blair County, Pennsylvania for further project information and documentation.

Compiler: Peter Stott, Historian
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History:

The core of this small, brick structure appears to have been constructed in 1889 as a paint storage building for the adjacent paint shop (now demolished). Both buildings are illustrated in a ca. 1900 photograph (#5,096) in the Altoona Public Library collection. The original structure measured 51'9" x 25'9" and displayed 12-over-12, segmental, arched windows. By 1926 the building had been extended to its present length of 73'8", and was still identified as the "Oil Paint and Storage" building. Today, the building functions as the office of the Tech Services Lab, and except for the addition of a wood-frame porch to the track side, it appears little changed from its original appearance.

Sources:

"The Altoona Shops of the Pennsylvania Railroad," American Engineer and Railroad Journal 70 (6 parts, June-December 1896), pp. 89-93, 165-169, 203-206, 241-245, 279-284, 317-320.

Baxter, W.W. "Pennsylvania Railroad Reconstructs Juniata Shops," Railway Review 30 (January, 1926), pp. 226-231.

Sanborn Map Company. Fire Insurance Maps of Altoona, Pennsylvania: 1894.